

LANDS AND LIFE. Book One. Russia and the Old East. By G. W. Hoke. Richmond, Va.: Johnson Publishing Company. Pp. 364. \$1.00.

Russia, China, Japan, India, and the Near East are told about in a simple style that suits the living conditions, the practical economies, and the social customs of people whose lives are directly affected by the geographic controls of their countries.

THE PROGRESSIVE MUSIC SERIES: Accompaniments for Songs in One-Book Course. By Osbourne McConathy, Edward Bailey Birge, and W. Otto Miessner. New York: Silver, Burdett and Company. 1925. Pp. 288.

This book of accompaniments will be a valuable supplement to the One-Book Course, a very practical collection of song material, designed to meet the needs of ungraded schools. The accompaniments reflect good musicianship and at the same time are not too difficult for teachers with limited experience in music.

The One-Book Course is in four parts. Part 1 gives special directions to the teachers of rural schools, Part 2 gives a syllabus for primary grades, Part 3 for intermediate grades, and Part 4 for upper grades.

APPLIED ENGLISH GRAMMAR. By David S. Burleson. Boston: Allyn and Bacon. 1925. Pp. 382. 92 cents.

A valuable book. Clear, up-to-date, sane. Though sufficiently ample, this grammar is noticeable for its wise omissions. There is just enough diagramming to be suggestive, without danger of obsession under the spell of linear representation. With discriminating reservations, the terminology follows that of the Joint Committee on Grammatical Nomenclature. The author seems to have found, happily, what he sought, "the middle ground between the old-time formal grammar and the language lessons of today."

PLANT AND ANIMAL IMPROVEMENT. By Elmer Roberts and Eugene Davenport. New York: Ginn and Co., 1925. Pp. 174. \$1.32.

This is a short treatise on plant and animal heredity. It includes a study of the mechanism of heredity, the application of the principles involved to the improvement of the forms of life, and a history of the development of many of our domesticated plants and animals. The subject matter can readily be followed by the high school student of biology or layman. It is an excellent reference for the former as well as for students of agriculture while anyone who is willing to trade a few hours of time to learn what makes living things, including man himself, what they are will find it profitable and as interesting and easy to read as any popular novel.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY. By Henry J. Waters and Franklin G. King. New York: Ginn and Co. 1925. Pp. 546.

As its title indicates, this book treats all phases of work with domestic animals and is well adapted to agricultural high school classes. At the same time any farm club members, live stock raisers, and poultry raisers will find it very helpful and practical. The chapters on poultry raising alone make it an invaluable book.

BEGINNER'S FRENCH. By Victor E. François and Franklin Crosse. New York: American Book Company. 1925. Pp. 304.

A fresh and charming book for laying the foundation of French study. Explanations are in English; instructions as to the *devoirs*, in French. The work is woven around three stories of life in France, one an old *chanson de geste*. Of especial value are the simple and clear descriptions of the position of the speech-organs in pronunciation, the lips being pictured in the act of pronouncing the more important sounds.

BRIEF SPANISH GRAMMAR. By M. A. DeVitis. Boston: Allyn and Bacon. Pp. 250. \$1.40.

Grammar taught one point at a time, with abundant drill. Every fifth lesson a review. Old Spain and Spanish America both featured in exercises, in maps, and in many half-tone engravings. Vocabulary small, but vital and oft-repeated.

NEWS OF THE COLLEGE AND ITS ALUMNÆ ALUMNÆ NOTES

Clyde Deisher is teaching at Eagle Rock and is developing some interesting projects in local history.

Dorothy Lacy (Mrs. Earle W. Paylor) writes from Mathews, Va., where her husband is school principal.

Nancy Hufford (Mrs. Captain Furrow), who spent some time at the college last summer, is at home at Bristol, Va.-Tenn.

Carolyn Wine paid us a visit during the Christmas holidays. She and Elizabeth Harley are teaching again at Bassetts.

Nan Wiley gets back to her old home at Crozet now and then, and remembers her friends at Blue-Stone Hill with an occasional message.

Anna and Helen Ward sent Christmas messages from Centralia. They have our best wishes.

At Christmas, Zelma Wagstaff Stanley was at home at Herndon, in Loudoun County, and joined with Helen Wagstaff in sending greeting to Alma Mater.

Hester Thomas writes from her old home at Culpeper. Her box number is 147, and she will be pleased to hear from her former classmates and other friends.

Sarah Lanier Tabb came back last sum-

mer to renew acquaintances, and also sent us a Christmas message. Sarah says that Portsmouth is a fine old town to live in—and we believe it.

Celia Swecker is teaching in Arlington County, living in Washington City, and visiting now and then in Highland and Harrisonburg.

Bessie Swartz sends a message from her old home at Mt. Clifton. Her address is Mt. Jackson, Box 30, Route 2.

Mary Sale is now Mrs. Stennett. She lives in Mississippi, but often thinks of Harrisonburg.

Alberta Rodes, one of the famous Rodes trio, and sometime president of the student association, lets us hear from her now and then. We should like to see Ruth, Alberta, and Clotilde all here together again.

Sue Raine writes from Danville. We hope she is planning a visit to Alma Mater at commencement.

Margaret Proctor also teaches in Danville. She made a flying trip through Harrisonburg recently.

Mary Lee Perry has been getting acquainted with many parts of this big country of ours. The last we heard of her she was in Nokomis, Florida.

Mearle Pearce still thinks of us now and then. As proof positive we have ready for inspection a beautiful Christmas card, bearing her signature, and mailed at Marietta, Ga.

Bertha Nuckolls will be remembered by many former students. She is now in Roanoke City. Her address is Box 262.

Little Ethel Blanche Oast of Portsmouth is just longing for the time when she can come to Blue-Stone Hill. She is named for her mother, who was Ethel Kaufman; and we hope that Ethel Blanche can be domiciled in due time in her mother's old room here on the Hill.

Ella O'Neal is teaching at Pequon, Frederick County. Of course, she spent the

Christmas holidays at her old home, near Woodstock.

Byrd Nelson is teaching in Richmond. She sent us a post card recently. Wouldn't you like to hear Byrd's sweet, soft voice again?

Elizabeth Nicol is now Mrs. Metcalf, but her address is Rockville, Md., again. She spent several years in Washington City just preceding her marriage.

Frances Mackey sends a beautiful Christmas greeting from Richmond. Her address there is 303 South Third Street.

Fay Morgan, Mrs. Joseph Hawley Neale, does not get around to see us very often, but she often thought of Alma Mater while she lived at Appalachia, Va., and we have evidence that she does not forget now that her home is at Upper Lehigh, Pa.

Shirley McKinney sent a Christmas message from her old home at Hinton, W. Va., at Christmas; and then January 4 her parents announced her marriage to Mr. Warner T. Harding. She will live at Tipers, Va.

On November 1 Lillian Chalkley was married in North Carolina to Mr. Norwood G. Greene.

Helena Marsh (Mrs. Ward McCourt) sends a message from New York City, but does not give her street address. We know that she has a warm spot in her heart for Harrisonburg, just the same as if she sent three addresses.

NEWS OF THE CAMPUS

The great interest of students all over the country concerning the Intercollegiate World Court Conference was locally evidenced in our own college, which sent one delegate, Laura Lambert, and four other girls to attend this meeting held at Princeton, N. J., December 11 and 12. The four girls who attended the conference were Claire Lay, Sarah Elizabeth Thompson, Louise Elliott, and Nancy Mosher. They brought back detailed reports of the real

purpose and meaning of the conference and the student interest in the World Court. They believe, and made us believe, that the conference will serve as a mile-stone in the progress of student leadership.

One of the entertainment numbers materialized December 11 in the person of Maud Huntington-Benjamin, who read "The Fool," that stirring play written by Channing Pollock. The student body fully realized they had had a rare treat. November 28 local talent was pleasingly displayed in "Folly and Her Troupe," which was given by the Frances Sales Club.

The college Glee Club gave a dinner program for the Rotary Club of Staunton December 1. The Choral Club offered as their quarter's work a Christmas vesper service in the Virginia Theatre December 20. The first recital of the year was given December 4 by Music and Expression students. Several chapel programs were taken up with music: November 27, the Æolian Club told stories through music; December 2 Mr. J. H. Ruebush directed the Dayton Orchestra in an entertaining program; December 8 the Glee Club and the Blue Stone Orchestra of the college had charge of the program; November 30 Mr. P. H. Baugher gave several vocal numbers.

There were bargains and fun for everyone who got to the *Scholma'am's* annual bazaar on time December 12. The bazaar proved very successful and entertaining as well. The Lanier Literary Society, with a parody on *Hamlet*, won the prize for having the cleverest stunt; Jennie Deitrick, a freshman, was rewarded for making the best poster advertising the bazaar. *Scholma'am* staff members recently chosen are as follows: Senior Class, Annie Councill; Junior Class, Edna Bonney; Sophomore Class, Mary Fray; Stratford Dramatic Club, Marion Kelly; Lee Literary Society, Hortense Eanes; Lanier Literary Society, Virginia Taylor; Page Literary Society, Mary Drewry; Y. W. C. A., Virginia

Wiley; Athletic Council, Emma Bell. Four others will be selected in February.

Many of the H. T. C. faculty attended the annual Virginia Education Conference held in Norfolk during the week of November 21 to 28—President S. P. Duke, Dr. W. J. Gifford, Dr. H. A. Converse, Mrs. P. P. Moody, Mrs. H. E. Garber, C. P. Shorts, and Miss Edna Shaeffer attending the conference held at Teachers College, Columbia University, November 27 and 28, C. T. Logan represented the English department and J. C. Johnston represented the Science department of the college.

The last hockey game of the season was played with Fredericksburg on the home field Saturday, December 5. The game was an overwhelming victory for the home team, the score being 15-1. The Varsity basketball team has been chosen and consists of Frances Clark, Lorraine Gentis, Virginia Turpin, Jessie Rosen, Sarah Ellen Bowers, Edythe Hiserman, Ruth Nickell, Doris Kelly (captain), Reva Banks, Alice Lohr, Sarah Hartman, Virginia Jackson, Elizabeth Miller, Edwina Lambert, Louise Mothershead, Loula Boisseau, Carolyn Weems, Elise Taylor, Virginia Harvey, and Irene Rodgers.—The hockey team elected Ruth Nickell as captain for 1926-27.

Besides the musical numbers the assembly programs were taken up with talks. The Reverend J. J. Rives of the Methodist Church spoke December 2 on "The Golden Rule"; Mr. H. W. Miles of the Southern Presbyterian Church spoke, December 4, on the subject of "Leadership."

The literary societies continued the outlined programs through December. At the last meeting the officers were elected for the winter quarter. Lee Literary Society elected Sarah Elizabeth Thompson president; Lorraine Gentis, vice-president; Janie McGeehee, secretary; Annie Younger, treasurer; Thelma Dunn, chairman of the program committee; Elizabeth Ellmore, sergeant-at-arms; Marion Kelly, critic.

Lanier Literary Society elected Ida Pinner president; Emma Bell, vice-president; Doris Kelly, secretary; Bernice Jenkins, treasurer; Mary Mapp, chairman of the program committee; Laura Lambert, critic; Helen Bargamin, sergeant-at-arms. Page Literary Society elected Jean Broaddus, president; Mildred Reynolds, vice-president; Helen Sadler, secretary; Virginia Brumbaugh, treasurer; Katharyn Sebrell, critic; Gladys Netherland, chairman of the program committee; Marion Trevillian, sergeant-at-arms. Debating seems to be uppermost in the minds of all literary society members at present.

The Y. M. C. A. has had many interesting speakers. Mr. Miles, secretary of the Southern Presbyterian Church, spoke on "Witnesses"; Mr. Fred Thompson, state secretary of the Y. M. C. A., talked about the work the Y. W. C. A. is doing in affiliation with the Y. M. C. A. "Queer People" was given by the Y. W. at a weekly service and "The Gifts of Christ" was given as the Christmas program.

The Journalism Class of the College journeyed to the newspaper office of the Harrisonburg *Daily News-Record* Thursday night, December 10. The fascinating process of newspaper-making was marveled at and partly absorbed.

One member of our student body, Charlotte Lacy, has won a prize for room improvement. Charlotte's contribution to the Room Improvement Contest won first prize at the Madison County Contest and also at the Virginia State Fair; it later received third prize at the National Club exhibit in Chicago.

Miss Gertrude Lovell, a former member of the H. T. C. faculty, underwent an operation during December at the Johnston-Willis Hospital. She has since visited the campus and is now sufficiently improved to be back in her position at Foxcroft School, Loudoun County.

The local Rotary Club entertained a group of proud daughters and sisters of fellow Rotarians at a dinner given at the Kavanaugh Hotel December 8. A unique program, including a take-off on a college faculty meeting, was given during the course of the dinner. The guests included Mrs. Varner, Miss Hoffman, and Miss Hudson, Lucille Jackson, Dorothy Ridings, Mary Louise Dunn, Charlotte Wilson, Marjorie Ober, Anna Johnston, Kathryn Pace, Hortense Eanes, Kathleen Slusser, Virginia Buchanan, Nancy Funkhouser, Elsie Wine, Mary Rhodes Lineweaver, and Wellington Miller.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

EDWIN A. ALDERMAN is president of the University of Virginia. Dr. Alderman made the address here printed before the Virginia Educational Conference at Norfolk on November 25 last.

EDITH R. WARD and BERTHA M. McCOLLUM are both recent graduates of the State Teachers College at Harrisonburg. Miss Ward is now teaching in the city schools of Norfolk, Miss McCollum in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

S. A. MARTENSEN is supervisor of elementary education in the city schools of Petersburg, Virginia. Mr. Martensen's paper was presented before the English section of the State Teachers Association meeting in Norfolk, November 25.

FOR ENGLISH TEACHERS

Soon to Appear: Articles of special interest by:

STERLING A. LEONARD, President of the National Council of Teachers of English.

WILLIAM M. SMITH, Head of English Boys, New York City.

RENEE BELLE INGLIS, Editor of *Tri-State* Department, Horace Mann School for *English Notes*, Minneapolis.

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